

ACHS SUMMARY FORM

1. Name: Ayton-White House
2. Planning Area/Site Number: 14/37/6 3. M-NCPPC Atlas Reference: Map 8
Laytonsville H.D. I-10
4. Address: 7011 Brink Road, Laytonsville
5. Classification Summary

Category <u>building</u>	Previous Survey Recording <u>M-NCPPC</u>
Ownership <u>private</u>	Title and Date: 1976 Inventory of
Public Acquisition <u>N/A</u>	Historical Sites
Status <u>occupied</u>	
Accessible <u>no</u>	Federal <u> </u> State <u>x</u> County <u>x</u> Local <u> </u>
Present use <u>private residence</u>	
6. Date: 1892 7. Original Owner: James Ayton
8. Apparent Condition

a. <u>excellent</u>	b. <u>altered</u>	c. <u>original site</u>
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9. Description: This 2½ story Victorian faces south, parallel to the road. It is covered with German siding painted white, and is trimmed with green shutters. The roof is sheet metal shingle (painted red) and a combination of hip roof (central section) and gable roof (to the side and front of the hip roof.) Two window dormers are uniquely attached to the corners of the hip roof (one facing southeast and the other northeast). There is a masonry chimney attached to the exterior west side of the building. The foundation is of local cut stone. Windows are 2/2 double-hung sash except for the bay (3 windows at the first level and 3 matching at the second) which are 1/1. A one-story glassed-in porch is attached to the rear east side of the house. The front porch is supported on turned posts which have ornamental scroll brackets attached at the top.
10. Significance: Deeds as far back as 1812 mention buildings and appurtenances on this specific acre of property in Cracklintown, possibly the site of an early Cracklin tavern.
 Part of James Brooke's "Addition to Brooke Grove", a 359 acre parcel was sold out of the family in 1794. Thomas Beall of George purchased the property in 1801, and in 1812 sold one acre with houses built by Alexander Case to John Barber. When John Layton bought the property in 1845 the deed notes that the property was occupied by Charles Crockett as a tavern stand. The old tavern property remained in the Layton family until 1890 when James Ayton bought the property and built his house in 1892. Ayton had clerked in George Mobley's store since 1866, and in 1881, bought out the store interest and ran it until 1892. He became involved in various land and mortgage deals, and served in the state legislature from 1897-1899. His widow sold the house and property (which had increased to 8.16 acres) in 1914 to Thomas Cranmer Griffith who operated a store with Guy Riordan. Griffith's daughter Louise Griffith White and her husband lived in the house until 1957. Their daughter and son-in-law now live in the 1892 house.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Researcher and date researched: Anne Wolf-9/79 | John Barrow
Arch. Description |
| 12. Compiler: Gail Rothrock | 13. Date Compiled: 10/79 14. Designation Approval <u> </u> |
| 15. Acreage: 8.16 acres | |

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M: 14/37/6
Laytonsville H.D.
MAGI#

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Ayton-White House

AND/OR COMMON Tessier House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 7011 Brink Road

CITY, TOWN Laytonsville — VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 6

STATE Maryland

COUNTY Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Washington White, Sr.

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER 7021 Brink Road

CITY, TOWN Laytonsville — VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code Maryland 20760

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 2520

Folio #: 254

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Rockville

STATE Maryland 20850

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE M-NCPPC Inventory of Historical Sites

DATE

1976

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☒ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Park Historian's Office

CITY, TOWN Rockville

STATE Maryland 20855

7 DESCRIPTION

14-57-6

CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT

☐ GOOD

☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED

☐ RUINS

☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED

☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE

☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This two-and-a-half story Victorian faces south, parallel to the road. It is covered with German siding painted white, and is trimmed with green shutters. The roof is sheet metal shingle (painted red) and a combination of hip roof (central section) and gable roof (to the side and front of the hip roof). At the ridge of the hip section is an ornamental dental mold crowned at either end with ball capitals approximately six inches in diameter. This ball capital reappears on the peak of the front gable roof which extends from the hip to cover the front two story bay of the house. This square roof base is supported by trusses attached to the corners of the bay. Two window dormers are uniquely attached to the corners of the hip roof (one facing southeast and the other northeast).

There is one masonry chimney attached to the exterior west side of the building, and the foundation is of local cut stone.

The windows are two-over-two double-hung sash except for the bay (three windows at the first level and three matching at the second) which are one-over-one. The window trims have a rectilinear post and lentil with an unusual curved to triangular base apron.

A one story glassed-in porch is attached to the rear east side of the house. The front porch extends from the east side of the bay around the corner of the house providing for an entrance at each "L".

The porch roof is supported on turned posts which have ornamental scroll brackets attached at the top.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		Local History		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Deeds as far back as 1812 mention buildings and appurtenances on this specific acre of property in Cracklintown: "...one acre with houses Alexander Case built on the main new cut road from the mouth of the Monocacy to Ellicotts Mills."¹ These records tend to confirm that the original town of Cracklin was exactly where the town of Laytonsville now lies. Land Records strongly suggest that the Ayton-White house is approximately on the site of a Cracklin tavern, perhaps the original one which gave the town and district its name.

The land was part of James Brooke's "Addition to Brooke Grove", and he left it to his son Richard, who in turn left it to his daughter Ann.² She married William Hammond Dorsey and lived in George Town. In June 1794 the couple sold 359 acres of her inheritance from her grandfather.³ The deed locates this parcel as east of Spring Garden, west and partly inclusive of Fair Hill, and on the north side of the new road. Joseph Barnes bought the land, and in November, 1798, he sold the same parcel to Robert Dorsey.⁴

Robert Dorsey, described as being a merchant of Baltimore City, sold the property to Thomas Beall of George in November 1801.⁵ In November 1812, Beall and his wife Nancy sold the one acre with the houses built by Alexander Case to John Barber. The acre is described as being the south-east corner of the tract.⁶

Edward House purchased the property in November 1816 from John Barber.⁷ House sold the acre in question in March 1827 to Anna Maria Winsor, for natural affection and \$200 paid by her father Arnold Winsor.⁸

The next transfer of the acre took place in Lafayette County, Missouri, in September 1845, where Anna Maria had moved following her marriage to Thompson M. Ewing. The Ewings sold the land and houses to John Layton for \$400, noting that this is the property "now occupied by Charles Crockett as a tavern stand".⁹

Charles Crockett, son of Henry and Anne Merrick Crockett, married Susanna Hilton in 1820 in Montgomery County and had several children, including Charles, Julius, Nathan, Lloyd, Ruth Ann, and Elizabeth.¹⁰

When John Layton bought the property, Crockett's tavern use apparently came to an end. In 1847 he sold out his possessions in his home in Damascus to Ruth Ann Worthington, everything from six feather beds to 26 urkeys.¹¹

On the 1865 map Richard Dwyer, son-in-law of Charles Crockett the former tavern-keeper, is indicated as the resident on that property, but the map is unclear about the number of buildings.

By the time the 1879 Atlas was prepared, the Dwyers had bought an acre along Route 108.¹² The old tavern property remained in the Layton family--

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

Continued on Attachment Sheet A

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Maps: Martenet & Bond (1865).

Hopkins Atlas (1879).

"The Laytonsville Area" by James C. Christopher, The Montgomery County Story, Montgomery County Historical Society, Vol. V, No. 4.

Interviews - William Duvall and Cuyler Dwyer Duvall.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 8.16 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Anne Wolf

John Barrow

Architectural Description

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

DATE

September 1979

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

STATE

Maryland 20753

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

Edward and Almira Brown and George and Olivia Gaither. (Layton's widow Almira married Edward O. Brown; Layton's daughter and only child, Olivia, married George Gaither.) William Gaither, a grandson of John Layton, recalls that after his parents were married, "...they moved into a large house across from the Layton home."

The next owner of the acre was James E. Ayton. Although James arrived in Laytonsville after the Civil War, his father Samuel and grandfather Beall had been residents of the area. Samuel Ayton had left farming to be a storekeeper in Washington, D.C., and James was born there in January 1843. His father died soon after. James went to public schools in the District and got a job as messenger in the quartermaster's department in 1861. During the last year of the Civil War he was sent to North Carolina as a government employee. Afterwards he came to Laytonsville to work for George W. Mobley.¹³

George Mobley had opened a store on the northeast corner of the town intersection in 1847, having moved there from Clarksburg.¹⁴ His clerk from 1859 until 1866 had been James S. Windsor, and James Ayton replaced Windsor as Mobley's clerk. (His older sister Lizzie had become Mobley's second wife during the war.)

After Mobley's death in 1881, James Ayton bought out the store interest and ran it until 1892, but he also became involved in various land and mortgage deals, often with William B. Mobley. The two of them were original stockholders in the Gaithersburg Milling and Manufacturing Company, and both helped to start banks in Gaithersburg and Rockville. One reason that Laytonsville never had a bank of its own is apparently that Mobley and Ayton operated as an unofficial town bank, lending mortgages and managing fire insurance.

In November, 1870, Ayton married Francis A. King, a cousin of the Mobleys. They had two children, Elizabeth and George.

Ayton bought the acre from George and Olivia Gaither in October, 1890,¹⁵ and built his home in 1892. He may have lived in the old brick house while building his new home, because the Ayton house was slightly farther west than the buildings on the 1865 map would indicate.

Ayton had always been a good worker for the Republicans, and in 1893 he lost an election for the state legislature by a relatively small margin considering the county's Democratic majority at that time. In 1895 he bought a farm near Laytonsville, and by becoming known as a farmer rather than a merchant, he avoided some of the anti-merchant sentiment common to farmers at that time. His name was placed in nomination again at the 1897 convention without his knowledge, and he found himself not only a candidate but a victorious one. He served from 1897 to 1899.

In 1914 Frances Ayton, widow of James, sold the house and property (which had increased to 8.16 acres) to Thomas Cranmer Griffith and Louisa Hood Griffith.¹⁶ Thomas Cranmer Griffith and Frank Dwyer, oldest surviving child of Richard and Elizabeth Dwyer, had opened a store on the northwest corner of the crossroads in 1896 or 1897. Frank Dwyer had worked previously at a store in Ridgeville, Md., and had run the old Mobley store with his brothers-in-law, Harry and Herb Weeks, from about 1892 until 1895. At that point the Weeks brothers ran the Mobley store and Griffith and Dwyer opened up across the street.

After Dwyer retired, he sold his interest in the store to F. Guy Riordan, who had worked there as a clerk. Cranmer Griffith and Guy Riordan continued their partnership until Griffith's death in 1924.

When the Cranmer Griffith estate was settled in 1927, his son Thomas, who had been in school and too young to take over the business at his father's death, bought back the store interest from his sister, Louisa Griffith White. She and her husband Washington White lived in the Ayton house, and they had held the store interest for Thomas until he came of age.¹⁷

Thomas Griffith continued the partnership for about five years until his sudden death. Guy Riordan and his sister Catherine continued to operate the store. Guy died in May 1961, and Catherine in 1975.

Washington and Louisa White continued to live in the house until 1967. At that time they built a brick rambler on another portion of the land. Their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. James Tessier, now live in the 1892 house.

FOOTNOTES:

1. Land Records of Montgomery County, Md., Q/209.
2. Abstracts of Wills, Montgomery County, Md. 1776-1825, Mallory et al. 1977, pp. 20-21.
3. Land Records, op. cit., E/665.
4. Ibid., H/335.
5. Ibid., K/63.
6. Ibid., Q/209.
7. Ibid., BS 1/55.
8. Ibid., BS 1/55.
9. Ibid., STS 1/280.
10. Montgomery County Courthouse Marriage Records, U.S. Census Records (1840), and the Crockett Family Genealogical Records.
11. Land Records, op. cit., STS 3/216.
12. Ibid., EBP 9/196.
13. Portrait and Biographical Records of the Sixth Congressional District in Maryland, 1898, pp. 845-846.
14. Ibid., pp. 720-721.
15. Land Records, op. cit., JA 11/411.
16. Ibid., 246/362.
17. Ibid., 438/83-85.

This genealogical chart for the Mobley family may tie together some relationships described in this history.

Archibald^{J.} Mobley ~~Esq~~



Basil Mobley b. 1786



George W. Mobley

b. 28 June 1817

d. 12 Aug 1881

m₁ Mary A. Brown

1823-1859

{ William Brown

m₂ Lizzie C. Ayton

1843-1875

{ Samuel Ayton
Susan Cox
1822-1885

{ Beall Ayton
Eleanor Redman

m₃ Molly F. Bell

1853-1880

{ Frank L. Bell
Amanda Peddicord

{ Adam Bell
Eleanor Ffye
Thomas Peddicord
Rebecca

William B. Mobley

b. 28 Feb 1843 Clarkstown

m. 30 April 1868

d. 6 Mar 1929

Reuben Riggs
(Oaks II)

Mary Willson Thomas

Walter Griffith

Mary Willson Riggs

Louisa H. Griffith

1845-1887

Walter W. Mobley
m. Bessie Griffith, dau.
of Judge David Griffith

Edith M. Mobley
m. Daniel Griffith
of Howard County

George W. Mobley
1879-1887

Beall Ayton Eleanor Redman

Samuel Ayton

Susan Cox

Rufus King

Amanda Mobley

George W. Mobley
b. 1817
d. 1881

Lizzie Ayton
b. 1843
d. 1875

James Ayton
b. 1847

Frances King

George
1864-1872

Fannie
1869-1871

Ernest
1872-1873

Rosalie
1873

Elizabeth
(China)

George

Ayton - White House



View from Rt. 424



View from the east